

Larry Thomason Named Director of Motor Carrier Services



Recent efforts to combine common services in state government consolidated a number of state programs into the Motor Carrier Services unit in the Missouri's Department of Transportation. Larry Thomason was named motor carrier services director and will manage the unit's daily activities. Thomason had been executive director of the Missouri Highway Reciprocity Commission, whose functions are part of the merger.

"Larry brings to MoDOT a unique blend of private-sector and state government experience that will be essential to organizing the Motor Carrier Services unit to provide the best services possible to the motor-carrier industry," Hungerbeeler said.

Prior to his position with the Highway Reciprocity Commission, Thomason was a member of

the Missouri House of Representatives. He has been a chamber of commerce director, small-business owner, oil company survey engineer and radio news director.

Gov. Holden signed legislation July 11 implementing an earlier executive order merging into MoDOT programs from four separate agencies currently serving motor-carrier operators and businesses in Missouri. The agencies include MoDOT's existing Motor Carrier Services Unit, the Department of Revenue's Highway Reciprocity Commission, the Department of Economic Development's Division of Motor Carrier and Railroad Safety, and part of the Department of Natural Resources' solid and hazardous waste management program.

"Commercial-vehicle operators will benefit from a single point-of-contact for all registration and licensing needs, which allows for more accuracy and better customer service. It will save them time," Hungerbeeler said.

FMCSA Interim Final Rule

On Thursday, Aug. 2, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration announced an interim final rule. The new rule will require states and state law-enforcement personnel to place interstate motor carriers out of service and assess appropriate state penalties for not properly registering with the FMCSA as a for-hire carrier of passengers or freight. Motor carriers placed out of service under this rule may have a hearing within 10 days of the out-of-service order to contest the out-of-service charge.

The rule responds to requirements of the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999, which requires the FMCSA to enforce motor-carrier registration requirements and assess penalties for noncompliance.

For interstate carriers, proper operating authority requires them to submit a Form MCS-150, or a Motor Carrier Identification Report to the FMCSA. For-hire carriers must also apply for appropriate operating authority and file the required forms, which may be obtained by contacting MoDOT's Motor Carrier Services.

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Papers Necessary for Hazardous Waste

The USDOT's Research & Special Programs Administration is amending the Hazardous Materials Regulations to require shippers and carriers to retain a copy of each hazardous material shipping paper, or an electronic image thereof, for a period of 375 days after the date on which the hazardous material is accepted by a carrier. This final rule, HM-207B, took effect on Aug. 12, 2002.

Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR parts 171-180) require a person who offers a hazardous material for transportation in commerce to describe the hazardous material on a shipping paper. A paper copy of the shipping paper must accompany hazardous material during transportation. The definition of a shipping paper includes a shipping order, bill of lading, manifest or other shipping document serving a similar purpose and containing the required information.

In 1994, Congress amended the federal hazardous material transportation law [49 U.S.C. 5110(e)] to require that, after a hazardous material "is no longer in transportation," each offeror and carrier of a hazardous material must retain the shipping paper "or electronic image thereof for a period of one year, to be accessible through their respective principal places of business."

That section also provides that the offeror and carrier "shall, upon request, make the shipping paper available to a federal, state, or local government agency at reasonable times and locations."

PrePass Electronic Screening System

An innovative public/private partnership has been approved that will use the latest technology to allow commercial vehicles to bypass weigh stations. This saves money, improves efficiency and makes roadway travel safer for everyone.

New technology allows MoDOT to reduce the number of exiting and entering vehicles at weigh stations, relieving traffic congestion and maximizing efficiency. It also assists in keeping the public safer and ensuring our roads don't deteriorate from improper weights.

PrePass allows participating truck operators to be pre-screened as they approach weigh stations. Sensors located in advance of the weigh-stations verify whether a carrier has a satisfactory safety rating and is current on registration fees, fuel taxes and insurance. This information is passed along to a small transponder attached to the driver's windshield. Truck drivers see a green or red light inside the cab telling them to pass or stop. This all takes a matter of seconds, and assuming all is well, the drivers keep traveling, saving time and ultimately, money.

Participating commercial vehicles will save valuable time and fuel, while improving their productivity. The motor-carrier industry will also benefit from carrier

incentive programs to comply with safety regulations and credential requirements.

PrePass is operated by Heavy-Vehicle Electronic License Plate, Inc., a non-profit partnership between motor carriers and government agencies that is funded from revenues generated from the services it offers. HELP will provide the state with computer hardware, transponder readers, high-speed, weigh-in motion scales, vehicle classifiers, and database and technical support at 19 locations in Missouri.

To recover the \$10 million price tag, HELP charges motor carriers 99 cents each time they bypass a weigh station, up to \$3.96 per day. A green light incurs a charge only if the weigh station is open. The PrePass system has been installed in 23 other states at 215 locations with an additional 49 sites committed. Nationally, more than 16,000 carriers are enrolled having more than 212,000 trucks registered to use PrePass.

For additional information contact Gary Steinmetz, administrator motor carrier services, Overdimension Overweight Permit Unit at (573) 526-5315. For information about HELP, Inc. and the PrePass Program, visit the PrePass web site at www.prepass.com.

"Did You Know"

If you transport persons or property across state lines for hire to the general public (not as a contract carrier), you are not required to pay sales tax on the purchase of a motor vehicle or trailer. The Department of Revenue has the following requirements to qualify for this exemption of sales tax.

- The applicant must be a common carrier engaged in interstate commerce (does not apply to contract carriers or common carriers engaged only in intrastate commerce).
- The authority to operate as a common carrier must be in effect prior to the purchase date of the motor vehicle or trailer.
- The motor vehicle must be licensed for a gross weight of 24,000 pounds or more, or if a commercial bus is involved in interstate commerce, it must be licensed to carry at least eight passengers.
- The owner must present a copy of the interstate authority at the time application of the title is made. The documentation could be:
 1. A Certificate of Authority to Operate as a Common Carrier issued by the United States Interstate Commerce Commission, Federal Highway Administration or Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration at the time application for title is made; or
 2. A copy of the Interstate Exempt Permit issued by MoDOT's Motor Carrier Services or the former Missouri Division of Motor Carrier and Railroad Safety, Missouri Division of Transportation, or Missouri Public Service Commission.
- If the owner is not a common carrier but leases to a common carrier for longer than 30 days, the owner must present a copy of the lessee's certificate of authority and a copy of the lease agreement to qualify for the exemption.

For additional information regarding the common carrier motor vehicle tax exemption, please call the [Motor Vehicle Bureau at \(573\) 751-4509](tel:573-751-4509).

News on Wheels

Missouri Department of Transportation
Motor Carrier Services
P.O. Box 1216
Jefferson City, MO 65102
573.751.7100
Toll Free: 866.831.6277
Fax: 573.526.3651

Additional copies available upon request. If you have any questions or comments, please send them to the address at left.

Director Larry Thomason
Motor Carrier Services
Editor Rebecca Geyer



Produced and published by Public Information and Outreach

Employee News

Mileposts

Name	Unit	Years of Service
Shelley Cooper	Support Services	5 Years
Tom Sims	Enforcement	5 Years
Carolyn Hawks	Registration	10 years
Michael Garrard	Enforcement	20 years

We Bid Farewell to:

Marty Rush, computer information technologist II, of the support services section, and **Kim Dowd**, senior office support assistant-keyboarding, with Registration in July 2002.

Mary Upton, senior office support assistant-keyboarding, retired July 31, 2002 after five years of service with the Enforcement Section.

Skip Radley, transportation enforcement inspector III, retired Sept. 30, 2002 after nearly 30 years of service with the Enforcement Section.

Web Site News

Do you get frustrated when trying to find the right web site or department in order to receive the motor-carrier information you are looking for?

Now you can save time looking for that one site. Whether it's to obtain informative manuals, forms, fuel tax charts, contact list of Motor Carrier Services staff, or answers to your frequently asked questions - you can find it on the consolidated Carrier 1-Stop site by simply going to www.carrier.state.mo.us

This site has been designed to assist businesses and individuals interested in commercial operations. Please be patient as the current individual motor-carrier sites are due to undergo construction in order to make one unified site.

It is our mission to meet the expectations of the interstate carriers that will allow the continual movement of the industry.



News on **Wheels**

Missouri Department of Transportation
Motor Carrier Services
P.O. Box 1216
Jefferson City, MO 65102

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Motor Carrier Services	Address	Phone & Fax
International Registration Plan Regulations, IRP Applications, Reciprocity, Trip Permits, Temporary Authorizations, License plates, cab cards, titling information	Location: 1617 Southridge Dr. Jefferson City, Mo. 65109 Mail: P. O. Box 893 Jefferson City, Mo. 65105	(573) 751-6433 Fax: (573) 751-0916
International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) Regulations, Missouri IFTA Applications, Temporary Fuel Permits	Location: 1617 Southridge Dr. Jefferson City, Mo. 65109 Mail: P. O. Box 893 Jefferson City, Mo. 65105	(573) 751-6433 Fax: (573) 751-0916
Overdimension and Overweight Regulations, Permits, Blanket Permits	Location: 2211 St. Mary's Blvd., Jefferson City, Mo. 65109 Mail: P. O. Box 270 Jefferson City, Mo. 65102	(573) 751-2871 or (800) 877-8499 Fax: (573)751-7408
Single State Registration, Interstate Exempt, Intrastate Authority, Housemovers License, Hazardous Waste and Waste Tires Applications, SSRS Receipts, Stamps, Stickers, Licenses, Proof of Insurance	Location: 301 W. High, Truman Bldg., Room 230, Jefferson City, Mo. 65101 Mail: P. O. Box 1216 Jefferson City, Mo. 65102	(573) 751-3358 or (866) 831-6277 Fax: (573) 522-6708
Safety and HM Regulations/Enforcement Information, regulations, training, Compliance Reviews, Educational Contacts, Complaint Investigations	Location: 301 W. High, Truman Bldg., Room 230, Jefferson City, Mo. 65101 Mail: P. O. Box 1216, Jefferson City, Mo. 65102	(573) 751-7117 or (866) 831-6277 Fax: (573) 751-4354
www.modot.state.mo.us and www.carrier.state.mo.us		